**IT Applications Unit 3, AOS 1, Online Communities**

Complete the following, from Chapter 2, Online Communities, pgs, 44 –

1. Define an online community?

**Types of online communities:**

**Social networks and communities**

1. Describe the nature of a social networking site.

Is the way in way in which people communicate online and often these communities are quite organic.

1. List egs. of these sites.

* Facebook
* Google Wave
* LinkedIn
* Twitter
* YouTube

1. What is the primary purpose of social networking sites.

The primary objective of social networking is to share and communicate.

1. Is there governance over these sites and do they add “new” content to the internet?

There is little governance unless there is a crime using the site.

**Personal Profile Sites**

1. Describe the nature of personal profile sites.

It allows users to create a profile page that list their friends and information about themselves.

1. As a social networking tool what does facebook enable users to do?

It allows users to broadcast their status, collaborate on events and knowledge share links websites of interest.

1. What type of tool is twitter?

It’s a micro-blogging tool that allows users to document what they are doing in 140 characters.

1. What has been the strengths & weaknesses of twitter?

Quick to get information around in disasters but can be called useless babble.

1. What do social networking tools, such as Flicker and YouTube allow users to do?

Allows uses to upload, share different types of media.

Issue:

1. How do social networking sites pose a legal and ethical minefield for employers?

**Professional or work-based communities, p 49**

1. Describe the characteristics of professional or work-based communities.

Websites, discussion areas and mailing lists are set up with a clear purpose and often the community has rules on what and how information can be shared.

1. How does membership differ in these communities to social networking sites?

Memberships to these communities are often closed, as the site is either owned by a professional association or a workplace.

1. How does the content differ from social networking sites?

There are more restrictions with work-based communities.

**Project and interest based communities**

1. List the characteristics of these communities.

* Are open to the public
* Have free membership
* Encourage the exchange of ideas.

1. List an eg. of an interest based community.
2. Visit the project based community, <http://handmadehelpsout.blogspot.com/> as an eg. of one of these sites.